ly> that they who are skilled in the grammar of the heavens may be able, from the several ponfi-gurations of the stars, as it were letters, to, spell out future events, by making such analogical interpretations as they use to do in augury; as when a bird flies high, to interpret this of some high and noble exploit.— And Simplicius/inlike

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upayK<xc,GUcra /itv **rac** TWi'ds op£y£0(;at >;
8t oi!<ra Talc of is«<«v auwi'. The fatal conversion of
the heavens is made to correspond with the production of souls into generation at such and such times, not necessitating them to will this or that, but conspiring agreeably with such appetites and volitions of theirs.— And these philosophers were the rather inclinable to this persuasion from a su-* perstitious conceit which they had, that the stars, being animated, were intellectual beings of a far higher rank than men. And since God did not make them, nor any thing else in the world, singly for themselves alone, but also to contribute **to** the public good of the universe, their.physical influence seeming inconsiderable, they knew not well what else could be worthy of them, unless it were to portend human events. This indeed is tin* best sense that can be made of astrological prognostication ; but it is a business that stands upon a very weak and tottering, if not impossible foundation.

in. There is another wild and extravagant con i:eit$_t$ which some of the Pagans had, who, though they verbally acknowledged a Deity, yet sup*

* Comment, in Ifyictetum, c. i. p. *26$_?$ edit.